



## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH TOURISM IN UZBEKISTAN**

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### **ANNOTATION**

*This article describes opportunities for the development of youth tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan and is explained in accordance with the adopted regulations. It also provides ideas and recommendations on implementation of the Concept of development of youth tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2025.*

**KEYWORDS-** *Tourism, tourist, young tourist, youth, youth tourism, capacity, concept, design, infrastructure.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

To date, much attention is paid to the development of tourism in our country and the development of modern types of tourism. In this regard, in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures to further develop the tourism industry in the Republic of Uzbekistan", the main goal is to develop a concept for the development of youth tourism, which includes to construct youth tourism infrastructure to create favorable conditions to attract young tourists to our country, to organize cultural-entertaining events for attracting youth, to create a preferential system for attracting young tourists.

Particularly, much attention is being paid by the state to support young people in the country. As the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan has said in this regard, "... the state support for women and youth should be further strengthened [1]. Indeed, as a result of our efforts to promote domestic tourism and popularize youth tourism in our country, local tourist's number was more than 14 millions in 2018

Our country, which is rich in historical buildings has its place in the world in terms of tourism potential and opportunities. The number of tourists increasing year to year who wants to see our ancient cities like Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva, Shakhrisabz and Termiz, to visit unique architectural monuments, to do pilgrimage, to discover the unique nature, to learn about our ancient traditions and values. Adopting of normative and legal acts on improving the quality of tourism services and creating favorable conditions for travelers, expanding the range of services and the introduction of a visa-free regime, as well as the establishment of guest houses and tourist villages are indicative of the development of the industry.

Our country has sufficient potential for the development of youth tourism. There is a need to study their wishes to attract young tourists to our country, to create the necessary conditions and appropriate infrastructure facilities based on their requirements. From this point of view, a special attention was paid to the development of youth tourism in Uzbekistan. Therefore, the development of youth tourism will ensure the



establishment of priority goals and objectives for the active attraction of young tourists to our country, further increase in the flow of young tourists, improvement of the quality of tourism services and creation of tourism infrastructure for young tourists.

### RESEARCH METHODS

In this article induction, deduction, analogy, comparative, economic analysis, observation, comparison research methods are used.

### ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

According to the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the number of young people is increasing worldwide among tourists. In particular, the number of tourists worldwide in 2018 was 1.4 billion, of which 25% were tourists under 30. At the end of 2018, 5.3 million foreign tourists visited Uzbekistan, of which over 1.5 million were young people. The average age of tourists visiting our country in 2010 was 60, and today it is 45. This indicates the growing number of young people among the tourists visiting our country.

More than 60 % of the population of Uzbekistan is young people, and in this regard there is an opportunity to further develop the share of domestic tourism through the development of youth tourism in our country. In terms of numbers, Uzbekistan has a huge potential for the development of youth tourism. In particular, there are 1,915 recreational facilities and tourist facilities in Uzbekistan, including 205 amusement parks, 51 thematic parks, 34 eco parks, 63 water parks, 43 water attractions, 120 museums, 17 youth towns, 450 up-to-date restaurants and cafes, 95 cinemas and theaters, 52 entertainment centers, 168 modern-day hosts, 8850 craft workshops, 64 agro-tourism facilities, 655 tourist type vehicles (231

buses, 284 units) minibus, 30 electric cars, 4 cars Eker, 39 quad bikes, 5 hydrocycles, 62 non-road) and 48 horse and camel farms.

In addition, more than 8,000 cultural heritage objects, more than 100 universities, more than 1,000 summer camps, numerous sports facilities and recreational facilities can attract young tourists.

Growth rate of foreign visitor youth by 2017 was 4% on average, up from 12% in 2018 to over 1 million 525,000. In the past period of 2019, more than 1 million 750 thousand foreign tourists visited the republic.

To increase the interest of young people in the field of tourism within the framework of the "Travel around Uzbekistan!" program, the Tourism Challenge was organized with more than 600 tours covering more than 10,000 young people.

Indeed, the project of resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers on measures to develop youth tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan has been developed. In order to implement the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures to further develop the tourism industry in the Republic of Uzbekistan" adopted in August 13, 2019, number PD-5781, develop youth tourism in the country, increase the flow of young tourists' education in the spirit of love for the country, to make tourism popular activity among the youth, to increase the number of tourist attractions, diversify tourist services and improve their quality special project has been developed.

As part of this project, the Action Plan for 2020 on the implementation of the Concept for the Development of Youth Tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2025 was approved. Also the main tasks of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on tourism development in the development of youth tourism were identified.

**Table 1. Indicators of implementation of the concept of development of youth tourism in Uzbekistan for 2020-2025 [7]**

№	Name of the indicator	Years					
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1.	Number of young foreign tourists visiting Uzbekistan (thousand)	2200	2600	3000	3300	3650	4000
2.	Number of domestic young tourists (thousand)	6300	7500	8600	9500	10500	12000
3.	Number of youth hostels, camps and boarding houses (units)	40	65	90	102	120	140
4.	Number of international youth festivals, forums and other events (units)	20	32	45	60	70	80
5.	Duration of stay of foreign tourists (day)	2,6	3,0	3,3	3,8	4,0	4,3
6.	Average Travel Expenditure for a Young Foreign Tourist (US \$)	225	270	324	405	506	607

Implementation of the concept of development of youth tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2025 was



considered as a priority. Since the development of youth tourism in our country is a priority, its positive aspects include:

- job creation;
- increased income to lead to improved living standards;
- acceleration of urbanization processes, development of urban services, infrastructure and cultural organizations;
- acceleration of social and cultural processes;
- revival of local cultural values, development of folk customs and traditions and national crafts;
- preservation and restoration of local cultural monuments;
- expansion of natural complexes;
- increasing the attractiveness of the region;
- revival of local cultural life.

### CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Opportunities for the development of youth tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan are diverse and unique. In this regard the project of the Concept of development of youth tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2025 has been developed. The project is aimed at popularization of tourism among young people, by developing domestic tourism educate the youth in the spirit of patriotism, creation of favorable conditions for young tourists, establishing priority goals and objectives for the accelerated development of youth tourism, increasing the flow of young tourists to the country, diversification and improving the quality of youth services and improvement of tourism infrastructure for young tourists.

In this regard, for the development of youth tourism in 2020-2021, the creation of stable legal framework, modernization of relevant tourism infrastructure and active promotion of youth tourism brand in the country, the creation of youth tourism infrastructure in 2022-2025, diversification and improving the quality of services were provided. Based on these conclusions, the following measures should be developed for the effective development of youth tourism:

- further improvement of the legal framework for the development of youth tourism:
- development of tourism infrastructure and related infrastructure networks in the regions of the country, taking into account the needs and requirements of young tourists;
- organizing of various national and popular events on youth tourism and improvement of service infrastructure;
- stimulating the activity of subjects of tourism activities aimed at meeting the demand for youth tourism services;
- improvement of the system of training, retraining and advanced training of highly qualified specialists contributing to the development of the industry.

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